that is different. This is Private Members' Hour. Your questions are also there.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : Such matters should not be allowed to be raised during the Question Hour. This is a matter of procedure, although there may be one or two exceptions.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : This is to remove the confusion in the House. I will talk to you in the chamber.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : You should try to remove the confusion but it seems that such efforts lead to further confusion.

MR. SPEAKER : I will talk to you later on.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Please take the entire House into confidence.

MR. SPEAKER : I will talk to the leader.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Such things happen frequently.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera) : You allowed the leader of the House, but the matter doesn't end here. That is why, I requested you to permit the Hon. Members to raise the matter during the Zero Hour.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Wasnik, you do not add to the confusion. You may take your seat now.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : All of you kindly take your seats now. Now Q. No. 447, Shri A.K. Patel.

11.18 *hrs.*

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Evaluation of work done on Vedic Mathematics in Roorkee University

*447. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL :

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1813 on March 6, 1991 and state :

(a) whether the University Grants Commission has since conducted any evaluation of the work done in Roorkee University on Vedic Mathematics;

(b) if so, whether the University Grants Commission propose to undertake further studies through any institutions under the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research or any other recognised institution;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the purpose for which Vedic Mathematics is being utilised at present ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission, the Commission generally does not undertake evaluation of research programmes of universities except where the Commission has provided grants for such programmes. The Commission has not so far funded any university for promotion of Vedic Mathematics. However, proposals, if any, to start courses in Vedic Mathematics or to undertake research in this area would be considered by University Grants Commission on merits.

At present, Vedic Mathematics is mostly a subject of academic research by a few institutions. The National Institute of Science Technology and Development Studies (NISTADS) has found that in some cases, operation of multiplication/division on computer by methods of Vedic Mathematics are faster. The techniques developed from Vedic Mathematics by a CSIR Laboratory has led to simpler methods for solving complex mathematical equations. The Rashtriya Veda Vidya Pratishthan has commissioned the writing of a book on Vedic Mathematics which can be utilised by engineers. The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has also included material from Vedic Mathematics on topics considered relevant to mathematics curriculum in the Teacher's Guide for secondary and senior secondary schools.

DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL : This is a very important and vital subject. It was discussed in this House during the 8th Lok Sabha and the 9th Lok Sabha also. This subject is given importance in other countries also like UK and America and research is done on this subject there. But in our country unluckily this is a neglected subject.

During the 8th Lok Sabha, Hon. Shri Narasimha Rao, the then Human Resource, Development Minister had called three conferences to discuss the subject. During the 9th Lok Sabha Shri Raj Mangal Pandey was presiding over the meeting of the NCERT and he had asked them to introduce the subject in primary and secondary schools. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether he will give the assurance that the assurance given during the 9th Lok Sabha by Shri Raj Mangal Pandey will be implemented.

MR. SPEAKER : There is an Assurance Committee and such matters go before the Assurance Committee.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : The procedure laid down for the assurance given in the House will be carried out.

MR. SPEAKER : So the reply is in the positive.

DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL : I would like to know whether the University Grants Commission has replied that they don't carry out any research on this subject. Actually research is a subject of the University Grants Commission and not that of the primary school education department. Will the Government fund the universities for research purposes ?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Sir, the University Grants Commission does fund research projects; but there is a financial limit of Rs. 5 lakhs for these projects. The project report for this envisages for an expenditure of approximately Rs. 16 lakhs. Therefore the University Grants Commission sends this to the Department of Science and Technology and that Department is now looking into it. If they approve of it, they will fund it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA : Mr. Speaker, Sir as all of our worthwhile knowledge including Vedic Mathematics, written in sanskrit script is being studied and utilised the world over, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government proposes to computerise Vedic Mathematics and whether its use in computers would be allowed in our schools, colleges and universities ?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there cannot be two opinions that much of the knowledge bequeathed by our forefathers, have a concrete base. There can be and there are many ways to utilise it to suit the needs of the modern age. We shall implement the suggestions given by the Hon. Member, once research being conducted in this field reaches a definite conclusion.

DR. LAXMI NARAYAN PANDEYA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know whether it is true that the Roorkee University has decided to bring out a book on Vedic Mathematics and that some progress has already been made in this direction. If so, I would like to know the details about the amount of work done so far and also whether the Hon. Minister thinks that such books would prove immensely beneficial to engineering students ?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : A Reader of that University, Dr. Narendra Puri, has shown great interest in this subject and he is writing a book on it. I can tell you about the progress of the book, only after obtaining the necessary information.

[*English*]

SHRI ANNA JOSHI : Sir, the UGC has not so far conducted the study of Vedic Mathematics in Universities. At the same time, in your answer you have agreed that some part of Vedic Mathematics has proved to be helpful in doing 'division' or 'multiplication'. In some other engineering branches also it is very helpful. So my question is why not the UGC and the Government come forward and ask some Universities to pick up some branches for the in-depth study of Vedic Mathematics. What I am saying is that instead of someone asking the Government for the grant, why not the Government come forward, make some arrangement and ask the Universities to have a study of this.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : The suggestion of the Hon. Member is worth-considering. But the point is that the question has been answered and that is, in the pattern of assistance in the research programme, nothing has come forward so far. What the Hon. Member is suggesting is that the UGC

should try to promote this. I will certainly look into this matter.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know whether it is a fact that Vedic Mathematics as a subject is being taught to students in England, America, Switzerland and other countries whereas its education in India is denied to the students ? Will the Hon. Minister provide facilities of teaching Vedic Mathematics to the interested students at least in Kendriya Vidayalayas ?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I can say about it only after it is given due consideration.

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Minister has himself accepted that we shall introduce it in Secondary and Senior Secondary schools after a book is written. What I want to say is that books like Leelavati Beej Ganit (Algebra) and Rekha Ganit (Geometry) are being taught at present to the students of Upadhyay and Shastri classes in Sanskrit Vidyalayas. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether Vedic Mathematics being taught in Sanskrit Vidyalayas will also be introduced in Secondary and Senior Secondary Schools now that it has been proved that Vedic Mathematics is the best and easy mathematics and it is best suited even for use in computers ?

MR. SPEAKER : This has already been replied to.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Yes.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Sir, the first visionary of Swarajya and champion of nationalism Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati had said that 'Vedas' are the origin of all the veritable learnings. Yogiraj Arvind was also of the same views. I want to know what steps are being taken by Government to carry out research in and encourage studies of Vedas ? Besides mathematics, other disciplines of learning also exist in Vedas in their original form. I would like to know what efforts are being made by the Ministry of Education to carry out research in those disciplines existing in their original form and to encourage studies of Vedas ?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Hon. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Member might be aware that there is Rashtriya Veda Vidya Pratishthan which is engaged in such activities and which has done commendable work in this field. If the Hon. Member has any specific suggestion, he may send it to the institute (Pratishthan).

[*English*]

Raising of grants to the Voluntary Organisations

*449. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to increase the grants to voluntary organisations which are involved in rendering yeoman's service to the mentally retarded and physically handicapped children ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether there is any prescribed procedure to identify such organisations ;

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and